

New Britain Herald

HERALD PUBLISHING COMPANY
(Incorporated in New Britain)
100 North Main Street, New Britain, Conn.
Telephone 1234

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:
\$5.00 a Year
\$1.50 Three Months
\$1.00 a Month

Entered at the Post Office at New Britain
as Second Class Matter.

TELEPHONE CALLS:
Business Office 1234
Editorial Room 1235

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THE CORPORATION COUNSEL.

The corporation counsel of a city is the attorney for the city, not for the mayor of that city. The common council of New Britain manages the affairs of the city; it represents the people of the city; the name "city fathers" is particularly applicable. For that reason the common council should name the corporation counsel, as the situation is at present, rather than the mayor. Were we living under an autocracy it would be quite proper for the chief ruler to name his legal adviser. We are not living under an autocracy—theoretically, at least. Until the people are ready to decide that they cannot manage their own affairs through representatives selected to attend to the details because of the practical difficulties that would result were the people to try to meet regularly and discuss those details, they should at least select their own representative to appear for them in courts of law and to advise as to the proper legal steps to be taken in matters affecting their city.

This suggestion, namely making the office of corporation counsel appointive, will be considered by the charter revision committee. That committee will also consider the suggestion, previously commented upon, to have greater supervision by the common council over the school board. The arrangement whereby the school committee has such extensive powers has been criticized as "undemocratic" and bureaucratic. Certainly it would be far more democratic to take the selection of the people's legal representative from the representatives of the people in the common council and place it in the hands of one man.

Of course there will come the argument that a corporation counsel appointed by the mayor would carry out the mayor's policies with greater co-operation with him than might a corporation counsel selected by the common council which might have a majority not in full sympathy with the mayor. This argument, however, is destroyed when it is noted that the corporation counsel of a city is in office not to carry out anyone's policies but to advise the city as to the law in matters in which the city is interested. The law carries out no man's policies. It carries out, sustains and emphasizes its own rules regardless of the policies of any man.

CHANGING OPINION.

Two clergymen, speaking in New Britain within the last few days, have shown the recognition by church authorities of the changing viewpoint of the people. And when churches take action inspired by a new knowledge of people's viewpoint it is evident that that changed opinion has made a great impression.

Only a few days ago a minister of the gospel stated that religion was becoming more practical and that old superstitions were being eradicated. Recently a Bishop of the Episcopal church pointed out changes which had been made in the wording of the prayers of that church and in the ceremonies which would not have come were it not for a growing realization of the importance of meeting the practical and intelligent spirit of the day.

The news tells of the changes in the wording of the Episcopal marriage service made necessary because of the altered status of women in the world. In Bishop Acheson's interesting address other thoughts were emphasized and suggested, all tending in the same direction. While a Bishop of the Episcopal church and a minister or official of another church may be far apart in their theology, Bishop Acheson and the minister who spoke of the getting away from a mechanical idea of the future, were not far apart in thought on one matter. The idea of a place in the hereafter where bodies would burn in very practical fire was deprecated by the member of the Baptist denomination, while with equal conviction the idea of a very tangible place of torture in the time after death was questioned by the prelate of the Episcopal church. Carrying the idea of the doing away with old superstitions a little farther, Bishop Acheson disavowed a belief in the literal meaning of the words of the old Episcopal service of baptism that would indicate a baby was "born in sin." No man, he in-

stated, is responsible for the sins of his father.

Whatever the original meaning of those words, it is certain that they offend the sense of justice of men today. The sooner all people understand that such passages are not to be taken literally the sooner the church, broadly speaking, will succeed in its appeal to men and women who think. Men and women think more today than ever before. It is well that this fact is being recognized by theologians.

THE NE WHOSPITAL.

Today is being laid the corner stone of the addition to the New Britain General hospital. Men and women occupying the highest positions in the city and men and women occupying the humblest positions worked for it, gave to it. The best known of those least known may find health and life in it. A hospital represents the highest ideal of man's earthly thought for man.

All the people in this city and many in neighboring communities rejoice that the corner stone is being laid. They all helped make it possible. Those who will have the management of it will have a sacred duty toward all of them—and toward the sick and suffering everywhere who might have need of it. For selfishness should never enter the minds of those in whose charge this splendid expression of love and charity and kindness and sympathy will be. The hospital should stand a haven for rich and poor—for all whom it may help. The best feelings and thoughts of men and women go into the building of it. There should be the laying of the corner stone not only of a fine, new edifice for the care of the sick and injured, but the laying of the corner stone of renewed determination to make life better, more healthy and more happy.

NEW LEGION LEADER.

The selection of the National Commander of the American Legion is a matter of importance to all the country. The general public naturally know little of the men as they are chosen. But the people know much of the men who form this body of ex-service men. The people know that most of them crossed the ocean to fight under our flag; that most of them suffered either physical or mental hardship or both; that practically all of them have demonstrated in the most conclusive way their eagerness to do their duty whatever it might be.

And when the representatives of this great body of men have selected one to be their Commander, the people generally are satisfied that such a man is worthy of the post. Honor goes out to him immediately. Much is expected of him and great are the possibilities of his position.

Alvin M. Owsley, of Texas, has been selected as the National Commander of the American Legion for the coming year. With the honor comes confidence in him and the wish of all that he will reflect the best sentiment of the men who served. Practically all we know of him is told in a paragraph which has the right sort of ring. "He resigned a position as district attorney at the outbreak of the war to attend the first training camp open to volunteers." It is not difficult to think of him possessing the right spirit as he says to the ex-service men of the country, "Let's Go."

"REVERSE" ENGLISH.

The popular impression of an English "lord" is that he would be quite apt to patronize or speak patronizingly of an American movie actor, and rather loth to express thorough approval of American moving pictures. It is interesting to note that it was the American actor who spoke patronizingly of the "lord" and not the reverse, and that the latter was frankly astonished by our movies as shown to him by Charlie Chaplin.

Charlie Chaplin, speaking of Lord Mountbatten, who is in Los Angeles, remarked, "He's such a nice, simple boy." The orthodox English lord could imagine nothing more humiliating than to be called a "nice, simple boy" by one who occupies the position held in this country by humorous Charles.

Strange as it may seem there is still the impression that the vernacular of English aristocracy is ridiculous. While the people of England use terms which seem strange to us, they are no more peculiar than some of our pet expressions. The picture of an English "lord" appealing to newspapers not to quote him as using some of the outlandish expressions popularly attributed to them is an amusing one. As the Englishman would say, "wot, wot?" would be most decidedly "spoofing."

THE SOVIET IDEA.

There is still a feeling among a certain class of radicals in this country that the Soviet idea is all right. This feeling is possessed by those who think that a man is no good unless he produces something that can be taken hold of, carried about and used—a tool, a table or chair, something that can be eaten. They cannot see that the man who thinks and plans and executes or orders certain things done which result in wealth for the world does actual work and deserves recognition as a worker. That feeling should be dissipated. All honor to the man who produces with his hands something tangible

that can be picked up and made use of. All honor to the man who, because he has not been fortunate enough to have an education works hard physically, using the muscles of his body. But all honor, too, to the man who studies, experiments, plans, with the result that great achievements benefit the world. Honor the cripple, the blind, the deaf and dumb whose minds alone are producers.

The idea that the worker with his hands is the only worker deserving of recognition has been carried to an extent in Russia that seems to us ridiculous. The matter is cited as a warning of the degree to which it may be carried. Authoritative sources report that the law in Russia has just been changed so that the right to vote will be denied "Persons who employ hired labor for the purpose of profit; persons who live on unearned increment; private dealers, traders and commercial agents, clergymen, monks and all employees of religious cults."

The government of a country elected without the votes of the classes of people here named would be a government elected without the voice or some of the most intelligent and deserving people of that country. Beware of the Soviet idea.

Facts and Fancies

(BY ROBERT GUILLIN.)

Bluff. A high steep bank; also an ultimatum.

Ashes; a wilted flower; a post-season sport page.

The minor problems of the world don't include Asia Minor.

At any rate, the Allies are no longer "drunk with a sense of power."

How easy it is to get the drop on a burglar in a pistol advertisement.

In a republic, the dregs derive their just powers from the consent of the dried.



Another good way to study the American language is to let your wife find a strange hairpin in your coat pocket.

A man's definition of a living wage depends on whether he is getting it or giving it.

Fable: Once there was a girl who won in a beauty contest and was genuinely surprised.

The chief fault of any system of Government is too much government and not enough system.

Some dictionaries contain absurd mistakes. Ours defines peace as "a state of tranquillity."

Style-makers can dictate the length of skirts now, but in a few years the bolt weevil may do it.

One reason why Europe can't solve her problems alone is because she is too busy making new ones.



In a small town, Sunday is the day when everybody goes to church and the restaurants change table cloths.

Speaking of coal dealers, don't you regret having wasted all that language on umpires this summer?

The ordinary bumper is used to knock down pedestrians, but a bumper crop is used to knock down prices.

The office cynic says your enemies are the ones who risk you and your friends those who haven't yet had a chance.

Correct this sentence: "This is pre-war stuff," said the host, "so you needn't be afraid to drink all you want."

A patient and godly man is one who doesn't grin when the car that whizzes past him stops with a blow-out two miles further on.

25 Years Ago Today

(Taken from Herald of that date)

W. A. Parsons has been trying to get the State Army for polo games but he has been officially notified that this will be impossible.

The local branch of the Salvation Army held a rally in the Methodist church last night. The organization was credited for excellent work.

Herbert L. Mills' new horse "Ned H." broke all records at the horse show matinee held at Newton's race track in Plainville yesterday afternoon. There were 250 people in attendance at the show who witnessed "Ned H." bring down his record from 2:28 1-4 to 2:28 1-2.

The City Coal and Wood company has announced that it will engage in the pipe business—adv.

By seismic movements in 1922 in Chile, more than 100,000 square miles along the coast were raised permanently from three to four feet.

THE OBSERVER
Makes Random Observations
On the City and Its People

Once more, it is said, an attempt will be made to deprive the board of education of a large part of its power and authority by an amendment to the city charter to be proposed to the charter revision committee. This is a subject which comes to the fore periodically, which is discussed usually with a high degree of heat by advocates of the proposition, and then dropped. It is feared, however, that chronic enemies of everything that smacks of uplift will attempt to go farther this time and will not allow the matter to drop of its own weight.

The public should understand the situation clearly. Any attempt to restrict the usefulness of the local school board would not be an attack on the board but it would be an attack on the rank and file of New Britain. Whether their powers are large or small, members of the board have public spirit enough to serve the best they can. Loss of authority would not be their personal loss but it would be a serious blow at every child of school age in New Britain whose parents work in our factories. Among the complaints on which opposition to the school board is based is that old and familiar cry, "They spend too much money." In fact, the money question seems to be the principal issue of all campaigns against the schools.

The school board does spend a large share of the public receipts. Unlike most city departments, it cannot show returns in dollars and cents. It cannot point to a stretch of paved roadway, to new electric lights, to attractive parks or any other concrete proof that the money was well invested. But no intelligent man will deny that the return on the money is of far greater value to the community than streets, lights, parks, etc. It is an investment in good citizenship and it pays for all time in better manhood and better womanhood. It must be for a better city, a better state and a better nation by helping to create a higher state of civilization.

Education has proved itself. All we have to do to realize the truth of this statement is to look around us and see thousands of people going about their own business, not molesting their neighbors. They didn't do that when men lived in caves and used clubs, not words, for arguments. Education has been and continues to be the greatest force in the world, because it has made possible the creation of other helpful forces which never would have become possible had man not been taught to use his brain constructively.

In a city like New Britain with its population recruited from the farthest flung borders of the earth, it is surprising to hear of anyone suggesting a weakening of our educational system. In many cases the mothers and fathers of the growing generation of boys and girls came from countries where education was to be obtained only at the expense of great personal sacrifice or where it could not be obtained at all. They want their children to be on a plane intellectually with the other children throughout this broad land and they are justified in wanting it.

The danger lies in the situation being misrepresented by persons whose only desire is to further their own personal ambitions. It would not be the first time this has happened, although New Britain has been spared the spectacle of the schools being dragged through the streets to make a Roman holiday for office seekers. It is always considered a clever maneuver to appeal to the masses and try to stir them up against the classes. With respect to the school situation this has been done here before, the insinuation being that the board of education is a clique of "West Main Street" and therefore "the poor man doesn't have a chance, etc., etc." How nonsensical this is can be determined by an analysis of conditions. Instead of preventing the "poor" man from having a "chance," it is his only real salvation. Moneyed people would not be seriously inconvenienced if the entire school system broke down tomorrow and every public school was closed to stay closed, because they could afford to send their children to private tutors or private schools to continue their instructions.

The public school is a boon to the man who works for wages and wants his boys and girls to keep away from that rut. It gives him practically his only opportunity to see them fulfill his ambition. Any attempt to hedge about the board of education with restrictive regulations, any attempt to place a monitor over its legitimate expense account, any attempt to shear it of authority is a direct blow at the man the politicians say they want to help, the "poor" man, because unless his children get an education at actual cost they will grow up to be "poor" men too.

On the face of the present situation an unbiased observer would conclude that the democrats will find it necessary to put up the hardest fight of their lives to elect a senator and two representatives next month. Their main hope is that the vote for Mayor Townes for secretary of state and for their "League of Nations" local ticket will be so heavy that their candidates will be elected. And this is unsafe ground on which to base any hope of victory. Results may prove the writer to be all wrong, but at the present time it would seem safe to predict that New Britain will be represented in the senate and house next term by republicans.

The interest shown by republican voters was reflected on Monday by the manner in which they crowded to the polls. Messrs. B. W. Ailing and E. W. Christ had a comparatively easy time disposing of Messrs. Wells and Rice. It must be admitted that they had influential members of the party working for and with them, helping to get out the vote, while Wells and Rice were forced to paddle their own canoes or depend on the efforts of their personal friends. However, from the time that Mr. Ailing and Mr. Christ announced their candidacies there was little doubt of the outcome as it was realized that they were backed by influential members of the party who usually make up their minds to win when they enter a contest.

With "Dick" Covert running for senator and Mr. Ailing and Mr. Christ

for representative, the regular republican organization will put forward a ticket that it is satisfied can win. It is a strong ticket, one that will appeal to the conservative element in both republican and democratic parties and which should give a good account of itself on election day.

The Observer has learned from an authoritative source that important committee appointments are planned for Mr. Ailing and Mr. Christ, if they are elected and the republican party is in control of the assembly of which there is little doubt.

It is said that Judge Ailing will be appointed to the judiciary committee, one of the most responsible of the entire government. Judge George W. Klett, his law partner, was chairman of the judiciary committee when he was in the senate. Judge Ailing's familiarity with the needs of the judiciary gained through service on the local police court bench and long practice before the bar qualifies him for such an appointment.

Mr. Christ, it is reported, will have his choice of a berth on the finance or appropriations committees, either of which he would grace because of his experience as purchasing agent of the Stanley Works and his close affiliation with local activities which have required a man of administrative training and ability as their leading spirit.

The republican town committee has been urged to change the hours of primaries from 4 to 5 o'clock to 3 to 5 o'clock and it is probable that the recommendation will be adopted. The proposed hours would be more convenient for women who participate in the primaries, is the claim, as it would allow them to cast their ballots at a reasonable hour and return home without the need of haste, to prepare the evening meal for their families.

Herald readers will be forced to wait an hour later for their election "extra" this year, a law having passed the last legislature requiring the polls to remain open until 6 o'clock instead of 5, as heretofore. No one in the New Britain political field can explain the purpose of the new closing hour and the opinion is expressed that it will prove to be of little advantage here. Owing to the activity of party workers the majority of votes have always been rounded up long before 5 o'clock and it is expected that the hardest work election officials will do between 5 and 6 o'clock will be to watch the clock anxiously.

Nothing within recent years has caused so much conversation as the nomination of P. S. McMahon for senator by the democratic party. Most of the conversation, it is true, is of a character to indicate that the speakers accepted the decision of the democrats in a spirit of levity and hardly expect that McMahon will be elected although there are a number who would like to see him sent to the senate because they know his presence there would be productive of amusement. Very few have been found who take the nomination seriously and those who actually believe McMahon will win on election day are almost negligible.

Little can be said in favor of the democratic slate, as a slate. It is not truly representative of the party and it is doubtful whether it can command undivided party support. Mr. Niedersweck no doubt, will attract a large number of votes in the fifth ward, particularly among residents of Polish birth or descent. Mr. Gans expects to poll a heavy vote among people of the Jewish faith. What part McMahon will play is problematical, unless it be that he was "honored" because he is supposed to be possessed of large chunks of money and it is further supposed that he will contribute liberally.

The policy of the democratic hierarchy apparently is to nominate men of different nationalities. This strategy has worked before but it is doubtful whether it will be successful this year. The best the party can expect is a large vote in the sixth ward and a plurality in the fifth which may be great or may be slight.

In the first, second, third and fourth the republicans expect to roll up large margins in favor of their candidates. There is hope among the democrats of cutting into the G. O. P. vote in the second, because there are a number of Italians in the ward who may vote the democratic ticket in support of Mayor Townes and also because the leader of the Quigley faction, who lives in the second ward, is supposed to be lukewarm toward the success of the party. The republicans do not admit that the reelection in the second will be large enough to cause any alarm and they are confident that the outpouring of voters who want to see the Covert-Ailing-Christ ticket go through will be large enough in the four lower wards to offset any progress their rivals will make in the fifth and sixth.

Readers of the Herald learned with pleasure this week that the Lyceum theater management intends to offer "road shows" during the coming season. A tentative program has been arranged for the presentation of dramas and musical comedies although, so far as is known now, no definite bookings have been made. It is announced that the first offering may give friends and admirers to John Milner, (John Sheehan) an opportunity to receive him in proper style in this city. It is fitting and proper that a New Britain man should take a principal role in the renaissance of the drama in this city and if arrangements can be completed for Mr. Milner to appear here it should be a real treat to the history of the local speaking stage.

The best traditions of the Lyceum demand the presentation of good plays. In years past most of the celebrities of the world of make believe appeared before its footlights and its history is one of which no playhouse need feel ashamed. Many of the stars that twinkled before New Britain audiences have been extinguished by the hand of Time but their spirits haunt the dressing rooms and they still glow with all their brilliance for the "old guard" of first nighters.

If the management of the Lyceum can restore the house to its former glory it will be another step in the progress of the city. But the management cannot be held entirely responsible for the policy of the theater. Good shows are produced at heavy expense and the public must be willing to contribute by patronizing the theater. If New Britain's standard of entertainment falls to rise above "movies" it cannot expect anything higher in the way of offerings from theater owners, because they can be depended on to give the public what it wants.

The Lady Optimist was speaking.

"To me (she said) all hills are represented by the row of hills on the turnpike between Berlin and Hartland. I travel over the road frequently and I can't help comparing the journey with the journey of life.

"A short distance out of Berlin the eye is greeted with a range of hills ahead—a series of barriers between you and your destination. They appear steep and forbidding and as you speed closer they appear insurmountable—unless you are familiar with the ability of your car.

people have the right to be called doctor.

Of course a person who completes a medical course gets his degree as a doctor of medicine, or M. D. It is the other degrees that are erroneously called however. For an educator, a clergyman, etc., degrees of doctor are either conferred as honorary by some college or university, or are earned. The degree of master or doctor is sometimes conferred in course, upon those who have completed certain prescribed postgraduate studies as doctor of philosophy (Ph. D.), but more frequently the degree of doctor is conferred as a complimentary recognition of eminent service in science or letters, or for public service or distinction (as doctor of laws—LL. D.—or doctor of divinity—D. D.—when they are called honorary degrees.)

As a matter of fact there are but three clergymen in this city who have the right to title of doctor. They are Rev. Dr. George W. C. Hill of the South church, Rev. Dr. E. Klingberg of the Elm Baptist church, and Rev. Dr. Abel Ahlquist of the Swedish Lutheran church. Rev. S. G. Ohlman, former pastor at the Swedish Lutheran church, was also a doctor, as was Rev. Richard Moore, former pastor at St. Joseph's Catholic church.

Here's a nature story, likewise a true one: The sweet young thing, on entering her home late one recent evening, was surprised at being confronted with an angry mother who, in no uncertain tones, expressed her approval of the young man in question and concluded with the ultimatum that she must not go out with him again. He had been a more or less frequent and not unwelcome guest all summer, but the surprised daughter's protest was cut short by the curt comment, "Just look out of that front window." Daughter did. Then she dimpled and she blushed. They had neglected to take into consideration the fact that in the fall the leaves fall too, leaving an unobstructed view of the hitherto sheltered approach to the house. The fact that mother had evidently forgotten the days of sentiment does not make the song "When the leaves come tumbling down" any less significant for one young couple.

Congratulations to New Britain.

(The Bristol Press.)
The laying of the corner stone of the new building for the New Britain General hospital, which takes place Saturday afternoon of this week, constitutes a noteworthy event one that calls for cordial commendation. Of all the varied public benefactions that flourish in these modern days the hospital takes precedence. This institution is one of the things that sharply differentiates civilization from savagery or mediocrity. It renders to the public the greatest most practical and direct service possible. That the need is great is shown by the fact that it always outruns hospital facilities. New hospitals are being built in many towns and the established ones are constantly enlarged, but demand keeps ahead of the accommodations.

The city of New Britain has a most honorable record in this respect. It has long maintained an excellent and helpful hospital, one that has rendered splendid service, which it will soon be able to increase because of the generous aid given by citizens to the new building project.

We extend congratulations to the officers, physicians and nurses of the New Britain General Hospital and to the citizens who have made the new building possible.



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ADAMSON'S ADVENTURES BY O. JACOBSON
Another Theory Goes Wrong

